

## **Public Notice – Environmental Project**

### **PURPOSE OF NOTICE:**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed comprehensive conservation plan for the Presquile National Wildlife Refuge, which occupies an island in the James River in Chesterfield County, south of Richmond.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

**July 31, 2012 to August 6, 2012**

### **TYPE OF RESPONSE:**

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing the proposed conservation plan to determine whether it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water, and other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

### **NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:**

United States Department of Interior: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The Fish and Wildlife Service has prepared a draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan to guide refuge management over the next 15 years. The Plan and environmental assessment are combined in a common document, which also includes a federal consistency determination. The document presents and analyzes two management plans under consideration. Alternative A, "Current Management," would continue current management, including current planned, funded, and approved management actions, priorities, and projects. Alternative B, "Focus on Species of Conservation Concern," would combine actions determined to best achieve the purposes, vision, and goals of the Refuge and respond to issues raised in the public scoping effort. The Refuge, situated on an island in the James River downstream of Richmond, occupies 1,329 acres.

The Fish and Wildlife Service states that the activities contemplated in the plan will be consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

### **HOW TO COMMENT:**

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax, or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project document at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

### **CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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